

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O 181500 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2212

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 5776

EXDIS

DEPT PASS DIA IMMEDIATE FOR ACTION

DEPT PASS CAIRO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS LE

SUBJ: GOL- FEDAYEEN ARRANGEMENT

REF: STATE 94202

SUMMARY: FEDAYEEN REPS IN MIXED COMMISSION CAME UP WITH
LIST OF SPECIFIC PROMISES EVENING MAY 17 ON ACTIONS THEY WOULD
TAKE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESIDENT FRANGIE' S DEMAND THAT
GOL SOVEREIGNTY HENCEFORTH BE FULLY RESPECTED. LIST COVERS
COMMITMENT NOT TO UNDERTAKE CROSS- BORDER RAIDS, TO STAY WELL
BACK FROM SENSITIVE BORDER AREAS, TO CEASE USING BEIRUT AS
INFORMATION/ PROPAGANDA HEADQUARTERS, TO REMOVE HEAVY WEAPONS
FROM CAMPS, TO ACKNOWLEDGE SUPREMACY LEBANESE LAW OVER
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PALESTINIANS, TO REMOVE ALL " FOREIGN ELEMENTS" (I. E., NON- ARABS) AND TO ALLOW LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES ACCESS TO CAMPS. GO FULLY AWARE THAT FEDAYEEN PROMISES MUST BE IMPLEMENTED AND THEN BE RESPECTED OVER TIME TO BE WORTHWHILE, AND THAT FEDAYEEN GOOD FAITH IN THIS REGARD IS SUPECT. ARMY PRESENTLY WORKING OUT DETAILED AGREEMENT WHEREBY FEDAYEEN WILL BE SUPPOSED IMPLEMENT THEIR PROMISES. THESE COMMITMENTS BY FEDAYEEN APPLY TO ALL 15 REFUGEE CAMPS NOT ONLY THOSE IN BEIRUT AREA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN REPORTED SEPTEL, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESIDENCY (DIB) BRIEFED CHARGE AND EMBOFF MORNING MAY 18 ON STATUS OF GOL- FEDAYEEN TALKS WHICH CONCLUDED EVENING MAY 17. DIB AND FONMIN BOTH STRESSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT THERE WAS NO RPT NO AGREEMENT OR EVEN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GOL AND FEDAYEEN. RATHER, LATTER HAD MADE SERIES OF COMMITMENTS OR PROMISES TO ARMY NEGOTIATORS WHICH GOL HAS ACCEPTED AS BASIS FOR NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ITSELF AND ALL FEDAYEEN IN LEBANON. COMMITMENTS MADE EVENING OF MAY 17 WILL BE DRAWN UP ON PIECE OF PAPER BY ARMY AND WE CERTAIN OTHER GOVTS WILL RECEIVE COPIES. ARMY TALKING RIGHT NOW TO FEDAYEEN REPS ABOUT MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTATION, INCLUDING TIMETABLE. DIB THEN SUMMED UP (FROM MEMORY) ESSENTIAL POINTS OF FEDAYEEN COMMITMENTS. (THESE ARE REPORTED AS FOLS BUT MAY NOT BE COMPLETE NOR COMPLETELY ACCURATE. WE SHALL OBTAIN FURTHER INFO AND PRECISION WHEN AVAILABLE.)

2. ACTIVITY IN CAMPS: FEDAYEEN HAVE AGREED TO CEASE ALL TRAINING IN CAMPS, TO REMOVE " HEAVY WEAPONS" FROM CAMPS, AND TO CLEANSECAMPS OF ALL " FOREIGN ELEMENTS" (I. E., NON- ARABS). ARMY AND FEDAYEEN WORKING OUT DETAILED AGREEMENT ON MEANING OF HEAVY WEAPONS WHICH WILL BE BASED ON CALIBER, RANGE AND WHETHER OR NOT WEAPON IN CREW- SERVED OR HANDLED BY SINGLE MAN. TIME- TABLE FOR REMOVAL ALSO BEING ESTABLISHED SINCE FEDAYEEN ARGUE THAT FOR LOGISTIC REASONS AND TO ALLOW FEAR AND SUPICION OF LEBANESE ARMY TO DIE DOWN, REMOVAL OF HEAVY WEAPONS CANNOT TAKE PLACE ALL AT ONCE AND RIGHT AWAY. IN REMOVAL OF FOREIGNERS, FEDAYEEN MADE ONE EXCEPTION AND THAT IS THOSE WHO ENGAGED IN MEDICAL WORK. ALL " COMBATTANTS" WILL GO AND THIS EXPLICITLY INCLUDES TURKS AND IRANIANS AS WELL AS VARIETY OF OTHERS (SOME OF WHOM HAVE BEEN ROUNDED UP BY LEBANESE ARMY AT CHECKPOINTS OUTSIDE OF CAMPS IN PAST TWO
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WEEKS). DIB AND FONMIN AGREED THAT SO- CALLED MEDICAL PERSONNEL WOULD HAVE TO BE WATCHED CAREFULLY AND SAID THAT FEDAYEEN WOULD HAVE TO BE WATCHED CAREFULLY ON EVERY POINT, EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

3. CONTROL OF CAMPS: LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES (ARMY AND

CIVILIAN) WILL HAVE CHECKPOINTS JUST OUTSIDE CAMPS IN STRATEGIC LOCATIONS FROM WHICH THEY CAN OBSERVE INTERIOR OF CAMPS ON COMINGS AND GOINGS. THERE IS TO BE NO MORE MILITARY TRAINING IN CAMPS AND CAMPS ARE NO LONGER TO SERVE AS SHELTERS FOR FUGITIVES FROM LEBANESE JUSTICE. (WE UNDERSTAND FROM SEPARATE RELIABLE SOURCE THAT PALESTINIAN ARMED STRUGGLE COMMAND WILL STILL HAVE AUTHORITY WITHIN CAMPS BUT WILL COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES WITH RESPECT TO FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE.) FONMIN AND DIB SAID THAT LEBANESE SECURITY FORCES WILL HAVE RIGHT TO ENTER CAMPS BUT WITH PERMISSION OF FEDAYEEN. FEDAYEEN HAVE NO RIGHT CIRCULATE WITH ARMS OUTSIDE OF CAMPS AND MUST USE ONLY VEHICLES WITH SPECIAL PLATES.

4. INFORMATION/ PROPAGANDA: ALL INFO MEDIA SUPPOSED TO BE CONSOLIDATED UNDER PLO AND THERE IS TO BE NO MORE ATTACKS ON GOL BY FEDAYEEN MEDIA, EVEN VIA VOICE OF PALESTINE IN BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS. BEIRUT NO LONGER TO BE USED AS BASE FOR RELEASING FEDAYEEN COMMUNIQUES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ALTHOUGH Wafa (PALESTINE NEWS AGENCY) WILL BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN LEBANON. WHERE TRACTS AND OTHER " WILDCAT" FEDAYEEN PUBLICATIONS CONCERNED, GOL FREE TO ACT UNDER LEBANESE LAW AS IT WOULD AGAINST ANY OTHER SUCH PUBLICATION.

5. BORDER AREAS: FEDAYEEN HAVE AGAIN AGREED TO RESPECT LIMITS DRAWN UP BY ARMY FOLLOWING SEPT 16-17, 1972 ISRAELI ACTION. THERE ARE TO BE NO RPT NO CROSS- BORDER ACTIONS OF ANY KIND, FEDAYEEN TO BE ABSENT COMPLETELY FROM WESTERN AREA (VICINITY RAS NAQURAH) AND AT LEAST 8-10 KMS BACK FROM BORDER IN CENTRAL AREA (VICINITY BINT JBEIL). IN ARKUB, FEDAYEEN TO BE NORTH OF ROAD FROM HASBAYAH TO CHEBAA EXCEPT FOR TWO OR THREE SPECIFIED AND CAREFULLY CONTROLLED SPOTS.

6. COMMENT: OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE MANY DETAILS STILL TO BE WORKED OUT IN ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN GOL AND FEDAYEEN.

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ARMY IS BEING VERY WARY AND VIGILANT. PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF ARRANGEMENTS BY GOL AS UNILATERAL CONCESSIONS IS LIKELY BE COUNTERED ON FEDAYEEN SIDE BY CLAIM THAT IT IS ALL WITHIN CONTEXT CAIRO ACCORDS WHICH STILL IN FORCE. THIS IS NOT CASE BUT ON OTHER HAND THERE IS A MUTUAL-- ALBEIT ONE- SIDED-- AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOL AND FEDAYEEN. GOL APPEARS TO HAVE COME OUT VERY WELL IN TERMS OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID. BIG TEST WILL BE IN IMPLEMENTATION, AS GOL AND ARMY SEEM UNDERSTAND. HOUGHTON

NOTE BY OCT: BEIRUT 5776 NOT PASSED DIA AND CAIRO.

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